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SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2001

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with its weekly news bulletin. This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and packet bulletin boards.

Here are the headlines of today's news:

IRREGULAR USE OF SWOP SHOPS

HANDSFREE USE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN VEHICLES

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL AND MOTIONS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RUSTENBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ELECTS NEW COMMITTEE

SAATI MONTHLY MEETING

CENTURION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FLEAMARKET

ON THE AIR: LONG PATH FRIENDSHIP NET.

You are listening to ZS6SRL. The news follows in detail.

IRREGULAR USE OF SWOP SHOPS

It was brought to the attention of the SARL that certain amateurs use the swap shops on a regular basis to advertise and offer amateur radio equipment for sale. Thereby transgressing the regulation which prohibits the use of amateur radio and amateur radio bulletins for personal gain. ICASA received a similar complaint and is already investigating the matter. The radio amateurs have already been identified.

Arrie Putter, acting head of the licensing department of ICASA expressed his concern about the advertisements in a letter to the SARL and requested the SARL to comment. Radio amateurs are kindly requested to refrain from such use of swap swaps.

HANDSFREE USE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN VEHICLES

The traffic rule, which prohibits the use of cell phones and two-way radio equipment in motor vehicles, without the use of handsfree equipment as well as the concession contained in the law, are still applicable. Vehicles supplied with fixed two-way mobile radio installations or handheld radios with loud-speaker/microphone are exempted in the law and may still be used. The office

of the minister to date has not revoked the concession and also did not request comments regarding the law. Thus the concessions on the use of radio equipment described above are still in force until further notice. Unfortunately various clubs lately wrongly reported that the concession is no longer in force. There is no truth in it and the SARL will keep you informed if any changes take place.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL AND MOTIONS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting of the SARL will take place on 20 April 2002 and in preparation for the event, nominations and motions are called for. There are currently 6 vacancies on Council and in terms of Rule 16.2 nominations are invited from members of the SARL to fill these vacancies. Should more than 6 nominations be received a ballot will be held. Each nomination must contain the following: 1. Full names, callsign and address of nominee. 2. An amateur radio related CV of not more than 200 words. 3. A signed declaration by the nominee that s/he will accept nomination and serve on the Council of the SARL if elected. 4. Each nomination must be signed by a proposer and seconder. 5. Only fully paid-up members (Rule 16.3) of the SARL may be nominated, propose and second a nomination. The nominations must reach the Secretary by no later than 30 November 2001. Motions for submission and consideration at the Annual General Meeting of the SARL are invited from members. Each motion must contain the following: 1. A concise description of the motion. 2. A motivation in support of the motion. 3. Each motion must be signed by a proposer and a seconder. The motions must reach the Secretary by no later than 14 December 2001. The nominations and motions must be addressed to The Secretary, SARL and mailed to P O Box 101 465, Scottsville, 3209 or faxed to 033 260 5586. Other contact details are: Tel 033 260 5952 and E-Mail: zs5kd@futurenet.co.za.

RUSTENBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ELECTS NEW COMMITTEE

At the Rustenburg Amateur Radio Club AGM held on 3rd November 2001 at the QTH of Henry Rood, ZS6IIX on the Rietvlei plots, the following committee members were elected.

Chairman: Henry Rood ZS6IIX Vice chairman: Frans Keulder ZS6BXL Secretary: Erik Charlund ZS6AWS Treasurer: Hans Potgieter ZS6ALJ Members: Leon Burger ZR6BUR and Grant Muller ZR6GVM Repeaters: Hans Potgieter ZS6ALJ Rallies and Special events: Frans Keulder ZS6BXL Clubhouse: Erik Charlund ZS6AWS and Henry Rood ZS6IIX Social events: GRANT MULLER ZR6GVM PRO: Leon Burger ZR6BUR SARL League PRO: Henry Rood ZS6IIX

The Council of the SARL wishes to thank the outgoing committee for the services rendered during last year and wishes the new committee all the best for the new year in office.

SAATI MONTHLY MEETING

The SAATI Monthly meeting will take place on Monday 26 November 2001 at 19:30h for 20:00h Cantonnements Road Lyttleton. The topic is soundcard and other software for radio amateurs. The presentation will include the latests Powerpoint demo from Westmountain radio. The presenter is Egbert ZS6AZG. All are welcome come and enjoy with us the latest applications, software and the refreshments.

CENTURION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FLEAMARKET

The Centurion Amateur Radio Club will be holding a flea market starting 09:00 on December 1 at their club house at the corner of Duncan and Prospect streets. Something to eat, cool drinks etc will be available. All are welcome

ON THE AIR: LONG PATH FRIENDSHIP NET.

In this time of turmoil a group of hams from around the world are going to try to bring some light to the end of a rather dark tunnel. This with a new on-the-air fellowship gathering called the Long Path Friendship Net.

The net will start at 1430 UTC, Sundays on 14.165 MHz with Alex K6HAE and K6WTZ in California and John ZS6AN in South Africa as control stations. The founders say that this is a big planet and there are enough natural disasters to be dealt with as well as some sad man-made ones for which the proficient and friendly radio operator is a valued contributor.

DUCIE ISLAND DXPEDITION IS CANCELED EN ROUTE

High seas this week forced the Ducie Island DXpedition team to abandon its already-delayed effort to reach the newest DXCC entity, located in the South Pacific. Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK, announced November 19 that the DXpedition was cancelled and that the team—aboard the tri-hull sailing vessel Temarama and at that point some 80 nautical miles from its destination—was turning around and heading back to Pitcairn Island.

“This obviously is a big letdown for the team and DXers around the globe,” said The Daily DX and QST “How’s DX” Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, “however the Ducie Island operators were concerned for their safety.” McClenny called on DXers around the world to support the Ducie team’s decision to turn back in the interest of safety.

Ducie pilot station Bill “Dr Bill” Avery, K6GNX, said JA1BK and the Ducie team were scheduled to leave Pitcairn November 22 to return to the Gambier Islands for their flights home. But before they left, Mike McGirr, K9AJ, an emergency room doctor, and Vince Thompson, K5VT, a surgeon, fielded medical questions from island residents. There is no doctor on Pitcairn. Avery said that JA1BK has donated the team’s antennas and masts and two generators to the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association for use by a future DXpedition.

Forecasts at the time of the decision to turn back called for at seas of at least 3 meters (approximately 10 feet) around the newest DXCC entity. Avery said that, between the rough seas and having to shut down the diesel engines to clean

the fuel filter every few hours, it was just too risky to attempt a landing. Earlier, poor weather and a container ship in the Pitcairn harbor had delayed efforts to load passengers and equipment aboard the vessel. The team had hoped to arrive on Ducie in time to begin operation last weekend, using the call sign VP6DI.

Ducie Island became the 335th DXCC entity last week. Ducie contacts made on or after November 16, 2001, will be eligible for DXCC credit as a result of a favorable vote to accept the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association as an International Amateur Radio Union member-society <http://www.iaru.org/rel011116.html>. Ducie Island has been activated previously for the Islands On The Air program (it's IOTA OC-182), but those earlier contacts will not count for DXCC.

KD5OPQ DOES FIRST SPACE WALK; NEW ISS CREW IN THE WINGS

International Space Station Expedition 3 Commander Frank Culbertson, KD5OPQ, and Pilot Vladimir Dezhurov conducted a five-hour space walk, or extra-vehicular activity (EVA), as NASA calls it, on November 12. The EVA—Culbertson's first, but the last for the current crew—completed the external outfitting of the PIRS docking compartment on the ISS. Flight Engineer Mikhail Tyurin monitored the activities from inside the ISS and operated the robotic arm, providing television views for flight controllers in Houston and Moscow.

The ISS Expedition 4 crew of Commander Yuri Onufrienko and Flight Engineers Dan Bursch, KC5PNU, and Carl Walz, KC5TIE, launches aboard the shuttle Endeavour November 29. In addition to a new crew, new Amateur Radio antennas are manifested aboard the shuttle for transport to the ISS. The new antennas will be installed around the perimeter of the Service Module, allowing future operation from HF to microwave frequencies. The HF antenna is made up of a flexible tape that will work on 10-meters—and possibly 15 and 20 meters.

The ISS is on orbit at an average altitude of 247 statute miles above Earth. For more information about the ISS, visit NASA's Human Space Flight Web site, <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/>. (Source ARRL)

REMINDERS

Have you submitted any nominations for councillors or motions for the AGM.? Have you already submitted your details for the new callbook to the SARL HQ?

Also join us in the following activities: The President's Net on Sundays 12:00 on 7082 kHz; Amateur Radio Mirror International Sundays at 10:00 on 9750 and 21560 kHz which is repeated Mondays at 20:00 on 3215 kHz.

We thank all contributors, individuals, clubs and other organisations for contributions to this bulletin and all stations who so reliably relay the bulletins. This bulletin was compiled by Marten ZS6ZY, who is retiring from bulletin duties after almost 12 years. Many thanks to you all for your co-operation and bulletin news submitted over the years. Please delete my e-mail address:

sarlnuus@mweb.co.za. This bulletin is read by.....from You have been listening to ZS6SRL. This bulletin now ends and Sarlnews wishes you a pleasant week. Goodbye to all. /EX